

30 SEPTEMBER 1998



Supply

**ISSUING AND CONTROLLING EMERGENCY
BREATHING APPARATUS**

COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY

NOTICE: This publication is available digitally on the 30th Space Wing WWW site at: <http://vepdl.vafb.af.mil>. If you lack access, contact your Publishing Office.

OPR: 30 SUPF/LGS (MSgt. P.J. Thomas)
Supersedes 30 SWI/23-105, 19 Mar 96.

Certified by: 30 SUPF/LGS (MSgt. P.J. Thomas)
Pages: 5
Distribution: F

This instruction establishes and defines the process to coordinate the issue of emergency breathing apparatus from the Propellant Services Contractor (PSC). It describes organizational responsibilities and provides guidance on the use and maintenance of emergency breathing apparatus (EBA) equipment. In addition, this instruction covers the steps required for an organization to request support, receive required training in the use of equipment, and the long/short term use of EBAs. This instruction is consistent with Air Force Occupational Safety and Health (AFOSH) Standards 48-1, *Respiratory Protection Program*, and Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) Standard 29 CFR 1910.134.

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS

The revision of this publication is to meet the format standards required by the Air Force. No content material has changed. Some required format changes have been made to allow for the conversion process. Section 3 is now **Attachment 1**, and the following sections have been renumbered accordingly.

1. Responsibilities:

- 1.1. The Commander, 30th Space Wing (30 SW) is the authority for operations of the Protective Equipment Maintenance Operation (PEMO) section.
- 1.2. The PSC Program Office (30 LSS/LGLF) provides program management to the Propellants Services Contractor.
- 1.3. The Bioenvironmental Engineering Services (BES) (30 AMDS/SGPB) is the Base level authority on respirator protection. BES conducts all aspects of the Base level respirator program.
- 1.4. The PSC Operations Control Center (OCC) is focal point for planning, scheduling, and coordinating requirements for the PEMO facility. The OCC coordinates directly with the User in providing PEMO life support and training on equipment.

1.5. The PEMO is part of the propellant services contract operation that provides life support to various organizations in support of hazardous operations. Besides issuing equipment, the PEMO also provides initial training for the usage of life support equipment to include EBA units.

1.6. The Base Safety Office (30 SW/SES) provides technical expertise in the area of systems and ground safety for the 30 SW. All usage of EBA units will fall under their safety jurisdiction.

2. Operating Policies:

2.1. The PSC performs the function of providing life support equipment at Vandenberg AFB. The PEMO shop is located at Building 871, Arguello Blvd., South Vandenberg AFB, this facility is responsible for providing the training and issuing of emergency breathing apparatus (EBA) units to government authorized agencies at Vandenberg AFB as well as other agencies the government deems authorized.

2.2. All organizations must initially contact the Base Safety Office (30 SW/SES), 806 13th Street, Building 7015, Suite 3, Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-5230, and the Base Bioenvironmental Engineering Services (30 AMDS/SGPB), Building 13848, 338 South Dakota, Vandenberg AFB 93437-6317. These agencies will determine requirements and authorize EBA unit usage. The PSC will arrange for the requester to pick-up required EBA units from the PEMO section.

2.3. Once an organization receives authorization to use EBA units, they will contact the PSC, OCC at extension 6-7451 to schedule required training/issuing of equipment. The issuing of EBA units is accomplished for long term as well as short term use, and training requirements, as noted in paragraph 6 of this instruction are required.

2.4. User must plan their requirements to allow for a 10 work day advance notice for coordination purposes.

3. User Responsibilities:

3.1. The PSC Program Office (30 LSS/LGLF), 806 13th St., Bldg. 7015, Suite 6, Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-5230, is the focal point for organizations that are using the PSC assets. This office will assist users in addressing issues and concerns as they relate to providing EBA units. The Base Safety Office (30 SW/SES), and Base Bioenvironmental Engineering Services (30 AMDS/SGPB) will jointly determine user requirements and the amount of units authorized by each user.

3.2. The OCC is the focal point for all support that is provided by the PSC. The OCC is the initial contact for customers receiving PEMO life support. Once the initial request has been coordinated with the OCC, PEMO can begin working directly with the requesting agency.

3.3. The User organization is responsible to contact in writing the Base Safety office and Base Bioenvironmental Engineering Services for authorization of EBA units. The user will then submit a memorandum to the PSC, Building 7525, 10th and Utah St., Vandenberg AFB CA 93437-5230, requesting EBA units and arrange for issue of units with PSC, OCC at extension 6-7451.

3.3.1. The initial pick-up of EBA units is the responsibility of the User organization. The User is responsible to track the location of units to ensure none are misplaced or lost.

3.3.2. User organizations will ensure monthly inspections of EBA units are accomplished and return all units to PEMO for annual inspection and testing. Units that exceed the annual test date are operationally suspect and must be removed from service.

3.3.3. When EBA units have been lost or misplaced, the 30 LSS/LGLF and the PSC must be notified in writing that a unit cannot be located. Every effort should be made to locate the property before declaring the units lost. The User organization may be required to replace the lost items. This will be determined by the 30 LSS/LGLF.

3.3.4. Fulfill User responsibilities and meet directly with PSC when coordinating support or problems associated with equipment. When units are damaged, the units will be immediately turned into PEMO for repair or salvage. If damage to the unit is determined by the Air Force to be caused by User neglect, the User may be required to replace the EBA unit.

3.3.5. The User has the critical responsibility to accomplish the monthly inspection, ensure the inspection is documented and have an auditory tracking system.

3.3.6. The User is responsible for ensuring all EBA units are protected from the damage and the elements. This will ensure the integrity of the unit and extend the life of the equipment. It is recommended that units be stored in protective containers when units are required to be staged outside in the elements.

3.3.7. The User must provide a record of monthly inspections by serial number of all assigned EBA units to the PSC, PEMO section.

3.3.8. The User will turn in EBA units to PEMO immediately following the use of an EBA unit, when the unit has been rejected during monthly inspection or the annual inspection is due.

3.3.9. The User must explain in writing to the 30 LSS/LGLF Program Office and the PSC when a recalled EBA unit has not been turned in for maintenance.

4. Provider Operating Responsibility:

4.1. The Propellant Services Contractor's Responsibility. Retain the overall responsibility for managing EBA units. The Air Force will be responsible in providing technical guidance on issues relating to the authorization and use of EBA equipment.

4.1.1. Issue pre-approved amount of EBA units to Users and provide a listing of serial numbers of each unit issued to the User organizations. Smaller organizations requiring temporary loan of less than 50 units will be issued using an AF Form 1297, **Temporary Issue Receipt**. When issuing EBA units to large organizations, spare units will be included in their initial issue.

4.1.2. Provide a computer printout on a quarterly basis for the User organization to perform verification and reconciliation of EBA units issued to the organization.

4.1.3. Manage the Annual Preventative Maintenance Program, providing annual flow test, hydrostatic testing (when required), and unit inspection. Recall EBA units before exceeding the annual inspection due dates.

4.1.4. Maintain accountability of EBA units turned-in for maintenance and re-issue of units back to the User. When EBA units are turned-in for extensive maintenance, a replacement unit will be issued if the unit is required for operational support.

4.1.5. Perform depot level repair and maintenance including re-pressurization. PEMO will accomplish after use, refilling, and all required maintenance actions.

4.1.6. The PSC will ensure each EBA unit is conspicuously marked with a unique serial number.

5. Training:**5.1. User Training Responsibilities:**

5.1.1. Personnel authorized to use an EBA unit is required to be properly trained in its use. Initial training of organization trainers will be accomplished by PEMO. Once initial training is accomplished, it is the responsibility of the User organization to ensure individual training has been provided.

5.1.2. As part of the training requirements, each individual must perform an actual operational test as part of the overall training program. Training lecture, a review of the provided video training tape, and donning an EBA unit is included as part of the training.

5.1.3. All training will be documented on AF Form 2772, Certificate of Respirator Fit Test, or civilian equivalent, to ensure EBA users have received training. This documentation must be available for review at the request of Base Safety, Base Bioenvironmental, or any other appropriate government agency.

5.2. Provider Training Responsibilities:

5.2.1. Before initial issue of EBA units, the PSC, PEMO section, will conduct initial training on EBA use. The training will be conducted at the PEMO Facility, Building 871 for small groups. For larger groups the training will be provided at User location if requested through the PSC, OCC. The size of these groups should not exceed 40 individuals.

5.2.2. Training on EBAs by large organizations will have their trainers initially trained by PEMO. They, in-turn, will train their personnel. Smaller organization training may be conducted by PEMO.

JEFFERY D. HOLT, Capt., USAF
Commander, 30th Logistics Support Squadron

Attachment 1**TERMS:**

A1.1. Emergency Breathing Apparatus (EBA)— The EBA unit is a short term normally 15 minutes or less breathing apparatus, used for respiratory protection only during emergency egress. The unit is used in areas where emergency egress is required when hazardous or oxygen deficient atmospheres are present.

A1.2. User Maintenance— When units have been issued and have been positioned in the field, the Users will be required to perform monthly User inspections. The User shall inspect the unit to ensure the unit is full, the mask is clean without cracks or damage, and the hoses are inspected to ensure they are serviceable and are not damaged/dry rotted.

A1.3. Annual Maintenance— Annual maintenance requires EBA units to be thoroughly inspected and tested by qualified life support technicians. When annual maintenance is required, the units must be returned to PEMO.

A1.4. Hydrostatic Testing— Hydrostatic testing must be performed on the emergency life support apparatus (ELSA) units every five years, and every three years for the high demand valve (HDV) units, 15 minute units. The units will be removed from service to have this testing accomplished at an off-site location.

A1.5. User— A "User" is defined as any authorized user of an EBA air supply unit. The User must be properly trained.

A1.6. Long Term User— This organization is issued a predetermined amount of EBA units and has received the required training. The User has the responsibility to provide their training on use of units. Long term Users also accomplish the monthly User inspection on the EBA units and annotate the inspection using their system.

A1.7. Short Term User— An organization that requests the use of EBA units for a short amount of time (90-days), has received the required training, and received the assigned property on a hand receipt from the PSC. When their requirement is complete, the assets are returned to PEMO.

A1.8. Training— Before being authorized to use an EBA unit the User must receive operation training. The training includes a session on the operation of the unit, a review of a training tape of the use of an EBA, and then a donning of the unit to ensure proper technique is used.